1	2	3	4	5
20.	West Bengal (including Sikkim and Calcutta Telephone District)	227.54	306.58	450.46
21.	MTNLs Delhi and Mumbai	912.54	977.44	1250.00
22.	Other Units	1291.56	1332.33	1623.68
	TOTAL	9558.64	10427.78	13750.00

Opening of Telephone Exchange in Assam Telecom Circle

2641. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what plan has been taken by Government to bring N.E. Region at par with other parts of the country in the field of telecommunications ;

(b) how much telephone exchanges are functioning in village areas in Assam till now; and

(c) how much telephone exchanges are to be build in village areas under Assam Telecom Circle in the current year of 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The perspective Plan (1997-2007) for North East Region envisages to provide telephone on demand by 31st March, 2001 against the all India target of providing telephone on demand by 31st March, 2002.

(b) Out of 415 telephone exchanges working in Assam state, 296 telephone exchanges are working in the rural areas.

(c) It is planned to open 50 new telephone exchanges in Assam state during the year 2000-2001. Out of which nearly 45 telephone exchanges are planned in rural areas which are likely to be commissioned in phased manner by March, 2001.

Wireless Telephones in Karnataka

2642. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are going to introduce Wireless telephones in Bangalore City during 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the number of Wireless in the Local Loop (WILL) or wireless telephones proposed to be provided during 2000-2001 in Bangalore city;

(c) whether any survey has been made to identify the areas where this facility is to be provided;

(d) if so, the areas proposed to be covered; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to extend this facility to Bellary, Hubli, Mangalore, Mysore and other cities in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) It is proposed to provide 5000 lines of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) in Bangalore City during 2000-2001.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is proposed to cover following areas of Bangalore City with WLL :

(i) Indira Nagar

(ii) Central Exchange

(iii) Bangalore East

(iv) R.T. Nagar

(v) Vijayanagar

(e) Yes, Sir, Allotment of 1000 lines of WILL in Mangalore has already been made. The case for providing WLL in other cities of Karnataka, including Bellary, Hubli and Mysore is being considered.

Business Activities with M/s Ericsson Business Network

2643. SHRI GOPAL SINGH G. SOLANKI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2013 given in the Rajya Sabha on 21st December, 1999 and state :

(a) whether Government have discontinued business activities with M/s Ericsson Business Network;

(b) if not the reasons therefor;

(c) what are the business given to the above company during the last two years, projectwise; and